

AMENDMENTS

Listing of the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Presently amended) A method for suppressing sickle cell disease comprising[[:]]
exposing ~~globin-producing cells~~ a globin-producing cell to ~~at least one~~ a ferritin-H or
~~conservatively modified variants thereof~~ such that the ~~cells absorb~~ cell absorbs the ~~at least~~
~~one~~ ferritin-H.
- 2-10. (Canceled)
11. (Withdrawn)
- 12-18. (Canceled)
19. (Presently amended) The method of ~~treating sickle cell disease of claim 1,~~ wherein the
ferritin-H or ~~conservatively modified variant thereof~~ binds to the promoter region of
a β globin gene.
- 21-22. (Canceled)
22. (Presently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising ferritin-H or ~~a derivative~~
~~thereof~~.
23. (Canceled)
24. (Presently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~globin-producing cells are~~ the
globin-producing cell is exposed to the ferritin-H or ~~conservatively modified variants~~
~~thereof~~ *in vivo* by injecting the ferritin-H into bone marrow.

25. (Presently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~globin-producing cells are the~~
globin-producing cell is exposed to ferritin-H ~~or conservatively modified variants thereof~~
ex vivo, which globin-producing cell is subsequently transplanted into bone.
26. (Withdrawn)
27. (Presently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~globin-producing cells~~
~~are~~globin-producing cell is an erythroid precursor ~~cells~~cell.